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12 June 1974

Executive Registry

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence Director, Office of Political Research

SUBJECT : Staffing OPR -- A Progress Report

REFERENCE : Memo to DCI and DDI from D/PR and DD/PR

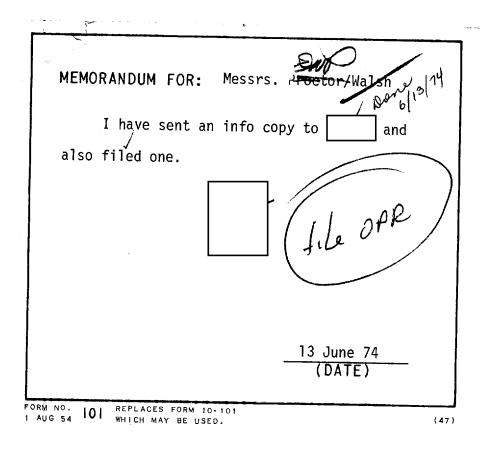
dated 23 May 1974, same subject

1. Thank you for this excellent progress report on staffing OPR. I am much impressed with the quality of the staff you have assembled. I am equally impressed with the quality of the output I have seen to date.

2. Your account leads me to one suggestion. I know we are in the initial staffing period for OPR, but I suggest that a certain number of the positions be identified clearly and publicized as "rotational positions." I think of them as the basis for "sabbaticals" for harassed analysts from OCI, OER, OSR, et al, and even for appropriate individuals from DDS&T and DDO. This could substantially extend our "external training" quota without going through the agony of moving families for the academic year. Further, such slots could be of indeterminate rotational term to permit the assignment of individuals to conduct proper OPR quality research on a particular topic needing three months', six months', or three years' research. The difference between my idea and what I know as your plan for normal rotation is the number of applications you might receive from others who might offer particular promise, who, would not be likely to apply if they did not know of this potential. I know I am being overly generous of the nonexistent slots I have failed to give you, but I would like to see if we could not work on this and come up with some solution to the problem.

> W. E. Colby Director

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